

1 **CLAIMS:**

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3 I Claim:

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5 1. An improved method of selecting points within a display device of a
6 data processing system, said data processing system including a single
7 graphical pointing device, comprising:

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9 displaying a plurality of graphical pointers within said display
10 device;

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12 temporarily selecting one graphical pointer among said plurality
13 of graphical pointers;

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15 manipulating said one graphical pointer in response to operation
16 of said single graphical pointing device during said selection of said one
17 graphical pointer; and

18

19 selecting a point within said display device in response to
20 closure of a switch associated with said one graphical pointer among said
21 plurality of graphical pointers, said point specified by a position of said one
22 graphical pointer.

1 2. The improved method of selecting points within a display device of
2 Claim 1, wherein said step of temporarily selecting one graphical pointer
3 among said plurality of graphical pointers includes selecting a subset of said
4 plurality of graphical pointers, including said one graphical pointer and at least
5 a second graphical pointer.

- 1 3. The improved method of selecting points within a display device of
- 2 Claim 2, wherein said step of manipulating said one graphical pointer includes
- 3 manipulating said subset of said plurality of graphical pointers.

1 4. The improved method of selecting points within a display device of
2 Claim 3, wherein said step of manipulating said subset of said plurality of
3 graphical pointers includes the step of:
4
5 moving said second graphical pointer to a position determined
6 from a position of said first graphical pointer utilizing a selectively defined
7 mathematical function.

1 5. The improved method of selecting points within a display device of
2 Claim 3, wherein said step of selecting a point within said display device
3 includes selecting a second point in response to closure of a second switch
4 associated with said second graphical pointer among said subset of said
5 plurality of graphical pointers.

1 6. An improved system for selecting points within a display device of a
2 data processing system, comprising:
3
4 a plurality of graphical pointers displayed within said display
5 device;
6
7 a single graphical pointing device interfaced to said data
8 processing system, such that a temporarily selected graphical pointer among
9 said plurality of graphical pointers may be manipulated by said graphical
10 pointing device during said selection; and
11
12 a switch associated with said selected graphical pointer among
13 said plurality of graphical pointers, wherein closure of said switch selects a
14 point within said display device indicated by said selected graphical pointer.

- 1 7. The improved system for selecting points within a display device of
- 2 Claim 6, wherein said graphical pointing device is a mouse.

- 1 8. The improved system for selecting points within a display device of
- 2 Claim 6, wherein said switch is a mouse button.

- 1 9. The improved system for selecting points within a display device of
- 2 Claim 6, wherein said plurality of graphical pointers are arrows.

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